

BRIAN S. PARSONS

(Summary Version)

In August 2003, Brian Parsons assumed the position of Supervisory Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP). In his role at ODEP, Mr. Parsons leads the work of a policy team that examines the issues and barriers facing employers as they seek to hire, accommodate, and advance employees with disabilities. His team monitors and evaluates federal and state disability employment laws, develops initiatives that advance the federal government as a model employer, documents effective employer practices, and articulates the unique perspectives of businesses regarding the employment of people with disabilities. His extensive experience in disability employment includes serving as the Director of the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities and President of the National Consortium of Developmental Disabilities Councils. In January 2003, the Virginia General Assembly passed House Joint Resolution 623 which commended Mr. Parsons for his service to Virginians with Disabilities. Mr. Parsons holds Masters Degrees in Urban Planning and Public Administration from the University of Virginia and a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science from Mary Washington College, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa.

(Standard Version)

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In his previous capacity as Director of the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities from 1996-2002, Mr. Parsons facilitated the work of the Governor-appointed Board to develop and implement initiatives that enhance the employment, education, and community inclusion of Virginians with Disabilities. While in this role, he served as Staff to Virginia's Legislative Disability Commission, Virginia State Liaison to the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and President of the National Consortium of Developmental Disabilities Councils.

Prior to his work with the Virginia Board, Mr. Parsons developed an extensive knowledge of state and federal grants management while working at the Commonwealth of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Department between 1988 and 1993.

Mr. Parsons' educational background includes a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science from Mary Washington College, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa. He holds Master's degrees in Urban Planning and Public Administration from the University of Virginia.

In 1985, Mr. Parsons was one of three recipients of the National Scholastic Achievement Award for blind and visually impaired college students from Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, Inc. In 1992, Mr. Parsons' work with grant management earned him the Exemplary State and Local Service Award from the National Center for Public Sector Productivity. He was a 1999 graduate of the Leadership Metro Richmond Program. In January 2003, the Virginia General Assembly passed House Joint Resolution 623 which commended Mr. Parsons for his service to Virginians with Disabilities.

Mr. Parsons lives in Fredericksburg, Virginia with his wife and two children.